



# ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 10, 2018

### BLACK HERITAGE COUNCIL TO HOST COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FORUM IN HUNTSVILLE

The Black Heritage Council of the Alabama Historical Commission will host a FREE Community Preservation Forum in Huntsville, Alabama, on September 21-22, 2018 at the Clyde Foster Auditorium on the Alabama A&M University Campus.

The theme for the program is ***Preserving and Promoting Madison County's African-American History***, which will shine a spotlight on the county's heritage and historic places. The Forum will focus on assisting individuals and groups in the area with documenting, preserving and promoting historic places that reflect the community's history and heritage.

On Friday September 21 at 3:00pm the Black Heritage Council will hold their board meeting. At 6:00pm there will be a Huntsville/Madison County African-American Legacy Program & Reception.

On Saturday, September 22 Forum registration and check-in begins at 8:00am. The Forum will feature informative sessions such as

- What is Historic Preservation and How is it Accomplished?
- Preserving African-American Heritage in Huntsville and Other Areas of Madison County
- Funding & Technical Assistance
- Special guest speaker - Ms. Tiffany Tolbert, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Chicago Field Office

A complete schedule is available on the registration page at [bhcforum.eventbrite.com](http://bhcforum.eventbrite.com). The event can also be found on [Facebook](#).

Although the Forum will be held in Huntsville, it is open to anyone throughout Alabama who is interested in attending.

This program is presented in partnership with the Normal Historic District Preservation Association, Alabama A&M University, Alabama A&M Community Development Corporation, and the City of Huntsville.

For more information contact the Black Heritage Council of the Alabama Historical Commission at 334-230-2678 or [blackheritagecouncil@ahc.alabama.gov](mailto:blackheritagecouncil@ahc.alabama.gov).



### **About the Black Heritage Council of the Alabama Historical Commission**

In 1984, the Alabama Historical Commission, the State Historic Preservation Office, created the Black Heritage Council (BHC) to advocate for and advise the Commission on the preservation of African-American historic places in Alabama. At the time of its founding, the BHC was the first African-American advisory council of a state historic preservation office created in the country. In fact, the first members of the Black Heritage Council, including the Chair Emeritus and Founding Member Louretta Wimberly, assisted other states with setting up similar advisory councils. The primary mission of the Black Heritage Council is to advocate for the preservation of African-American historic places in Alabama. It is the only statewide

organization whose sole mission is the preservation of African-American Historic Places. The BHC includes a 21 all-volunteer board which consists of members throughout the state and representing public and educational institutions. For more information please visit [ahc.alabama.gov/blackheritagecouncil](http://ahc.alabama.gov/blackheritagecouncil)

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### **About the Alabama Historical Commission**

Located in historic downtown Montgomery at 468 S. Perry Street, the Alabama Historical Commission is the state historic preservation agency for Alabama. The agency was created by an act of the state legislature in 1966 with a mission to protect, preserve and interpret Alabama's historic places. AHC works to accomplish its mission through two fields of endeavor: Preservation and promotion of state-owned historic sites as public attractions; and, statewide programs to assist people, groups, towns, and cities with local preservation activities. For a complete list of programs and properties owned and operated by the AHC, hours of operation, and admission fees please visit [ahc.alabama.gov](http://ahc.alabama.gov)